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LETTER DATED 17 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Acting under paragraph 5 of resolution 771 (1992) of 13 August 1992 and paragraph 1 of resolution 780 (1992) of 6 October 1992, where the Security Council "calls upon States ... to collate substantiated information in their possession or submitted to them relating to the violations of humanitarian law, including grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, being committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia and make this information available to the Council", I have the honour to present to you the attached letter from Mr. Sulejman Suljic, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and a transcript of a telephone conversation between General Mladic, Commander of the Serb and Montenegrin aggressor forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and his subordinates, Colonel Balac and Captain Kraljevic.

May I ask for your kind assistance in having this letter and its attachments available to the Commission of Experts established pursuant to resolution 780 (1992), and having them circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 17 April 1993 from the Under-Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina in New York

Despite the Security Council resolution adopted late last night (16 April 1993) European time, which creates prerequisites for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) to take over control over the security of the civilian population of Srebrenica and thus stop the aggression against it, we have to send the following report from Srebrenica, dated 17 April 1993 at 1.15 p.m., sent to us by radio amateurs:

"The town has been shelled throughout the night, the attacks escalating since 6 a.m. in particular. A great number of casualties are lying in the streets and in the shelled buildings without a possibility to be helped because the shelling continues incessantly. The infantry attacks are the fiercest from the directions of Zeleni Jadar, Pribicevac and Kvaro. The aggressor has been trying, in every possible way, to break into the town. The aggressor artillery, multibarrel-rocket launchers from Serbia included, are showering the town. It is a true inferno in Srebrenica, dozens of the wounded are dying, because they cannot be given medical assistance.

"1.20 p.m. - The building accommodating UNPROFOR has also been shelled."

(Signed) Sulejman SULJIC
Under-Secretary

Enclosure

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ministry of Information

Transcript of the telephone conversation between General Mladic, Colonel Balac and Captain Kraljevic recorded on Friday, 16 April 1993.

Mladic: Hello, Colonel Balac.
Balac: Yes, hello, hello, boss ...
M: Yes.
B: Balac here, tell me.
M: I am drinking coffee on Sarampovo and watching this sheepfold down there lying as if it were on my palm.
B: What are you drinking? Coffee?
M: On Sarampovo ...
B: I am being recorded for history.
M: Mr. Colonel, Sir, congratulations.
B: Thanks, boss.
M: Where are those ...? I am watching this sheepfold as if it were laid on my palm.
B: Sheepfold as if were on your palm?
M: Can you have them? (Mladic laughs.)
B: They are crawling down there like ants.
M: Like ants?
B: Yes.
M: Let the sniper work. So, they are crawling like ants. The best sniper is at work.
B: This afternoon they'll work non-stop.
M: Let them work.
B: But we'll be choosy.
M: What?
B: We'll be choosy, brother.
M: Let only the last convoy get out.
B: Understood, boss. You'll give a signal when to cut them off. (Mladic laughs.) Excellent.
B: Yes, Sir.
M: You'll contact me, let the convoy out.
B: Yes, Sir. Our extension is 311.
M: What is your extension? 311?
B: Yes, mine.
M: Congratulations, 311.
B: Yes, but we have got here the troops from the south.
M: You've got an extension. (Laughter.) What about Zeleni Jadar, tell me about it?
B: Boss, we are watching down below. Lukcem is climbing up there and watching it below him.
M: Let him climb and let him watch it, tell him so. So, go on like that, go on tearing them up and don't stop.
B: Understood.
M: Don't touch the town for the time being.

B: Yes, Sir.
M: Congratulations. I couldn't admire you more.
B: Thanks, boss.
M: What a [expletive deleted] you have got. (Balac laughs.)
M: Superb job. (Both Mladic and Balac laugh.)
M: Just go on like that.
B: Understand.
M: Bye.
B: Bye.

Hello.
Hello.
Mladic: Get me Balac on the line. Immediately.
M: Hello, Rajko. Rajko, boss is on the line.
M: Wait a sec. Give me Balac.
Balac: Yes.
M: Fire at Zeleni Jadar, you have my permission.
B: Yes, Sir.
M: Get the [expletive deleted].
B: If you allow, we'll start right away.
M: Shoot at Zeleni Jadar. Don't touch the factory, we need the machines.
B: Yes, Sir.
M: Zeleni Jadar. Fire a platoon right away.
B: Understood.
M: Don't let them breathe. You have good communication with our (unreadable) so that you don't get them.
B: Don't you worry.
M: Get going, brother, but don't fight the main town over there.
B: Don't worry.
M: Shell as much as you wish, boss. Bye.
B: Bye.
M: Fire at human flesh only.
Mladic: Do it safely and shrewdly and don't, they, fool you around in the wood, take care these are the (unreadable), they are there in those woods, not in these over here.
Kraljevic: Yes, Sir.
M: Clear?
K: Yes, Sir.
M: Well, there you are. Don't shell Srebrenica, for the rest, just go on.
K: Understood. We have the batteries up there, we shelled Pribicevac.
M: It doesn't matter. Only the human flesh, don't do anything but shell the human flesh.
K: Understood.
M: Avoid their hills, they have not got any weapons, nothing lethal, just a couple of bazookas. They have rifles. The simple ones. The 300-metres range, that's all. Avoid the hill, cut their communication, there is neither water nor electricity on the hill.
K: Understood.

M: Neither food nor anything. Just advance in their depth. Cut them through.

K: Understood.

M: Use the smaller group, and don't stop, brother.

K: Yes, yes.

M: Regards to all, and push on.

Sarajevo, 17 April 1993